

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing(s) include changes to FIGS. 3, 7, and 16. The sheet containing FIGs. 3, 7, and 16 respectively replace the original sheets including FIGs. 3, 7, and 16.

In the Office Action the Examiner objected to the drawings. In order to overcome these objections, replacement figures are submitted herewith. FIG. 3 is amended to illustrate a "data/transaction slip data extracting unit 202." FIG. 7 is amended to illustrate a "converting unit 16c." FIG. 16 is amended herein to illustrate a "receiving unit 1599."

For the convenience of the Examiner, annotated sheets showing the changes made are attached. Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the drawings, specification, and claims 1, 6-8, and 11-12 are amended. Claim 15 is withdrawn by the Examiner. Claims 1-2 and 4-14 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the foregoing amended claims, amended drawings and specification are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 and 4-14 are pending. Reconsideration is requested.

Background

An Amendment, including a Substitute Specification, was filed March 29, 2005 (previous Amendment) in response to the previous Office Action mailed October 29, 2004 (previous Action).

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Applicants request entry of this Rule 116 Response because it is believed that the amendment of claims 1, 6-8, and 11-12, amendment of drawings and specification puts this application into condition for allowance and should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised.

STATEMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

An in-person interview was conducted between the Applicants' representative and the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor. Applicants thank the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor for the opportunity to conduct an in-person interview.

Items discussed during the interview included the Examiner's contention that the Substitute Specification is "replete with terms which are not clear, concise and exact." (Action at page 4). Applicants representative indicated that other than Examiner's contention regarding DTDs and paragraph numbering that the Examiner has not given a listing of the terms which are not clear. Further, the Applicants' representative indicated that as set forth in MPEP 608.01(q) entitled Substitute or Rewritten Specification [R-2] "Numbering the paragraphs of the specification of record is not considered a change that must be shown pursuant to this paragraph."

The Examiners' supervisor briefly scanned the specification and indicated that the specification appeared to be satisfactory and that the Examiner would address any specifics that needed to be further addressed.

Applicants' representative also discussed proposed changes to the drawings to address the Examiner's objections to the same. The Examiner indicated such changes were acceptable

and would overcome the objections. Other arguments presented are addressed below.

TRAVERSE OF ELECTION/RESTRICTION

On pages 2-3 of the Action, the Examiner contends that claim 15 is directed to a non-elected invention, and withdraws claim 15 from consideration. (Action at page 3).

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's withdrawal of claim 15, and submit that that the various embodiments indicated by the Examiner are so closely related so as to not require separate fields of search, and accordingly, neither Applicants nor the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office should be put through the trouble and expense entailed in multiple filing and prosecution.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the withdrawal of claim 15.

OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS

On pages 3-4 of the Action, the Examiner contends that features of transaction slip data document, management data document, data extracting unit, transaction slip data extracting unit, receiving unit, and converting unit must be shown.

FIG. 3 is amended herein to illustrate a "data/transaction slip data extracting unit 202" and paragraph [0024] is amended accordingly. FIG. 7 is amended herein to illustrate a "converting unit 16c," and paragraph [0037] is amended accordingly. FIG. 16 is amended herein to illustrate a "receiving unit 1599" and paragraph [0062], amended accordingly.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that neither the phrases "transaction slip document" nor the "management data document" are recited in any claim, and therefore the Examiner's objection that the phrases are not illustrated in the Figures is unfounded.

In addition on pages 12-13 of the Response to Arguments, the Examiner mistakenly contends:

(t)he Examiner also acknowledges that applicant now limits his invention to storing data only in temporary storage and that the data is lost under certain circumstances, since RAM, Random Access Memory, is the computer's primary workspace and requires power to maintain its content and therefore any running programs and all the data they currently reference are lost without power.³ Concerning ROM, please see rejection under first paragraph of 35 USC 112.

(Emphasis added).

As discussed during the in-person interview, Applicants submit that Applicants have not so limited the invention to storing data only in temporary storage, as the Examiner mistakenly contends. Rather, a permanent storage is described and illustrated.

Applicants point out that paragraph [0038] of the specification that describes FIG. 16 as

illustrating

(a) CPU 1502 is connected to a ROM 1503, a RAM 1504, a communication interface 1505, a recording device 1508, a record medium reading device 1509, and an inputting/outputting device 1511. Management data, transaction slip data, conversion table, transfer destination table, and so forth are stored to the recording device 1508 such as a hard disk.

(Emphasis added).

That is, a permanent storage hard disk is illustrated in FIG. 16 as recording device 1508. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is requested.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

On pages 4-5 of the Action, the Examiner repeats his objection, from the previous Action, to the specification under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and contends "the specification is replete with terms which are not clear, concise and exact."

Paragraph [0036] is amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns regarding DTDs.

On page 13 entitled Response to Arguments, the Examiner indicates that the Substitute Specification has introduced additional errors. The Examiner contends that "paragraph numbers do not match paragraph numbers of USPG-PUB2001/0051899A1... it is not clear which version is being used for support."

As discussed during the in-person interview, paragraph numbers from the Substitute Specification are being used to support the arguments in the Amendment, and as set forth in MPEP 608.01(q) entitled Substitute or Rewritten Specification [R-2] "Numbering the paragraphs of the specification of record is not considered a change that must be shown pursuant to this paragraph."

That is, there is no requirement that either the substitute paragraph numbering match the previous specification of record and there is no requirement to indicate any changes to paragraph numbering.

As discussed during the in-person interview, Applicants submit that that the Substitute Specification filed in the previous Amendment both clearly and exactly made distinctions between data. Further, Applicants submit that the amendments herein further address any and all of the Examiner's concerns that the Examiner has made known in the Office Action.

Applicants further submit that if the Examiner continues in such an objection that specification is still "replete" with terms that are not clear, that the Examiner list those areas so

that the same may be addressed.

Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 1, 6, 7, AND 11

The Examiner objects to claims 1, 6, 7, and 11 contending the term "format" is confusing.

Claims 1, 6, 7, and 11, are amended herein, to recite, using claim 1 as an example, "a converting unit converting a first format of the received transaction slip data into a second format based on a transmission destination (emphasis added)."

Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Examiner rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph indicating that claim 1 refers to a storing unit for storing data that was extracted by the data extracting unit, and that "Applicant now defines the storing unit as RAM and ROM. . . . Applicant does not explain how he can store temporary data after the chip is programmed at the factory."

Applicants point out that paragraph [0038] of the specification describes FIG. 16 as illustrating

(a) CPU 1502 is connected to a ROM 1503, a RAM 1504, a communication interface 1505, a recording device 1508, a record medium reading device 1509, and an inputting/outputting device 1511. Management data, transaction slip data, conversion table, transfer destination table, and so forth are stored to the recording device 1508 such as a hard disk.

(Emphasis added).

That is, a permanent storage hard disk is illustrated in FIG. 16 as recording device 1508. Applicants submit that claim 1 complies with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and request rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 8 AND 12 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH (AND OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 8 AND 12)

The Examiner rejects claims 8 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and contends that "changing structure information" is not discussed in the specification in paragraphs [0057]-[0060]. (Action at page 14). On page 14 of the current Office Action, the Examiner indicates that "objections to claims 8 and 12 are maintained. See previous Office Action."

As discussed during the in-person interview, paragraphs [0057]-[0060] of the Substitute Specification discuss in detail changing of structure information. Further, paragraph [0036] is amended herein to indicate that "when XML is used, the types of information that are to be

considered as management data can be easily changed (emphasis added)."

Claims 8 and 12 are amended herein to recite using claim 8, as an example, "changing the structure data of a document to be considered including the management data (emphasis added).

Applicants submit that claims 8 and 12, as amended, comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and request rejection (and objection) to claims 8 and 12 be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 AND 4-14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

On pages 7 and 8 of the action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-2 and 4-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph contending in part that the term "data" and the phrases "tailoring functions without tailoring functions of servers of the order issuer or the order acceptor are indefinite.

Claims 1, 6-8, and 11-12 are amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns. Independent claim 1, for example, is amended herein to recite "extracting structure data as a search item of the document including transaction slip data therefrom (emphasis added)."

Applicants submit that claims 1-2 and 4-14 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and rejects the rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 AND 4-14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER CHANG (U.S.P. 6,584459)

Claims 1-2 and 4-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang. (Action at pages 6-8). The rejections are traversed.

Applicants submit that *prima facie* obviousness is not established since Chang does not teach recited features by each of the independent claims including, using claim 1, as amended, as an example, "extracting structure data as a search item of the document including transaction slip data therefrom; (and) storing the structure data extracted by said data extracting unit as management data that is correlated with the transaction slip data. (emphasis added)."

Chang also does not teach a converting so a "first format of the received transaction slip data is useable by an order issuer and the second format based on a transmission destination is useable by an order acceptor in an electronic business transaction between the order issuer and the order acceptor without requiring a tailoring of servers of the order issuer and the order acceptor (emphasis added)."

Chang merely teaches (see, for example, col. 7, starting at line 45) a converting of "UDFs 144 convert XML files into a storage format with predefined attribute values, storing XML

documents internally within the DB2.RTM."

That is, Chang merely teaches taking out data contained in an XML document, and converting the data into that of a database-storage format and conducting a search of the data thus taken out.

Summary

Since features recited by claims 1-2 and 4-14 are not discussed by the cited art, the rejection should be withdrawn and claims 1-2 and 4-14 allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

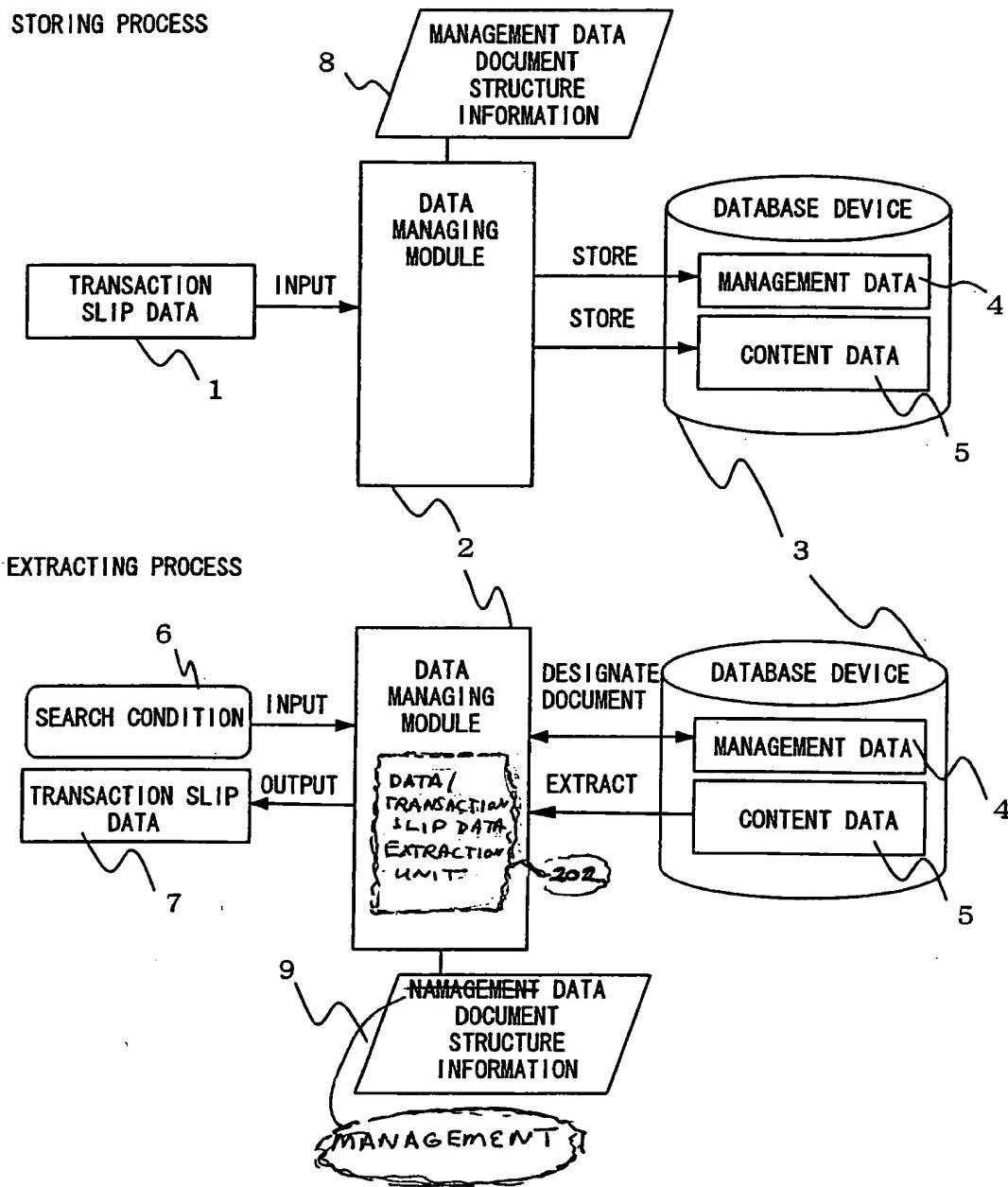
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ANNOTATED SHEET



F I G. 3



ANNOTATED SHEET

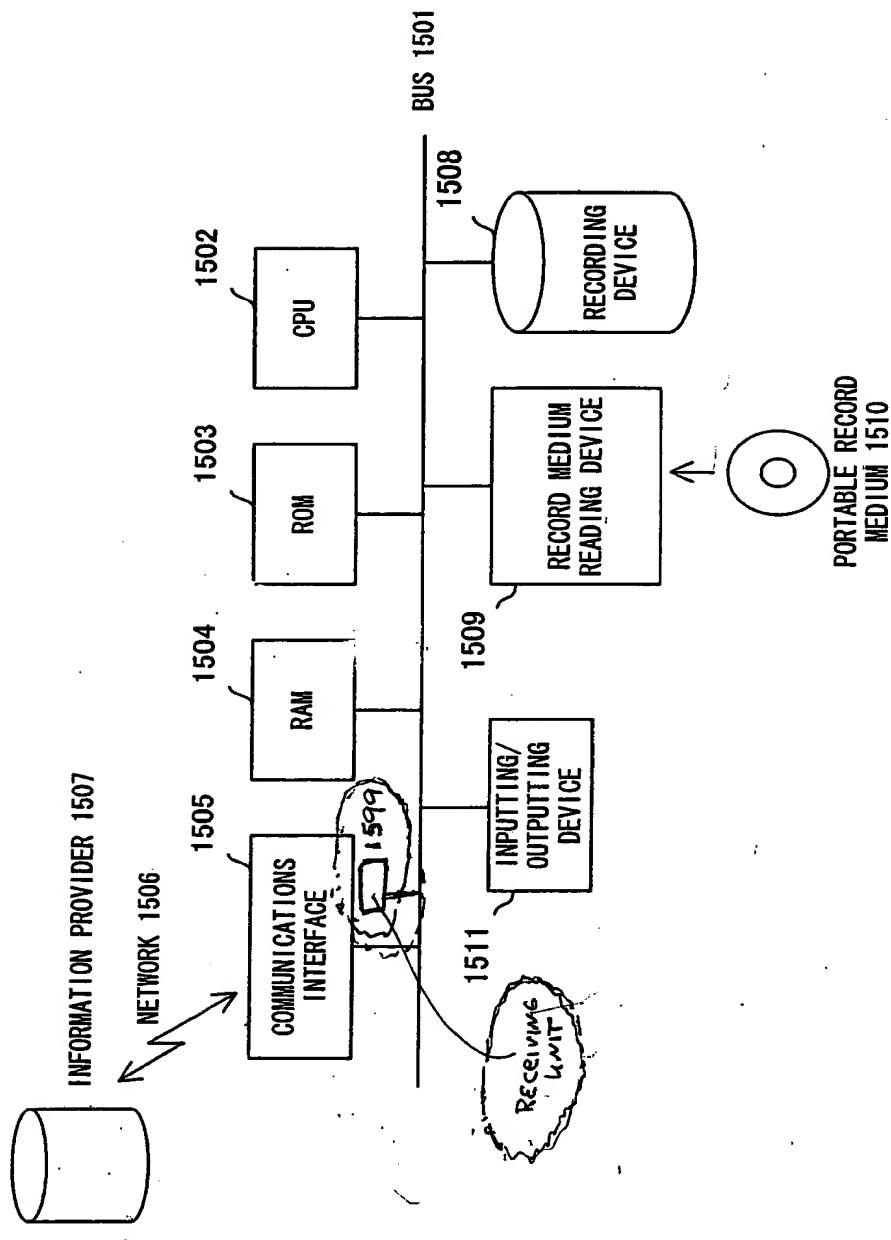
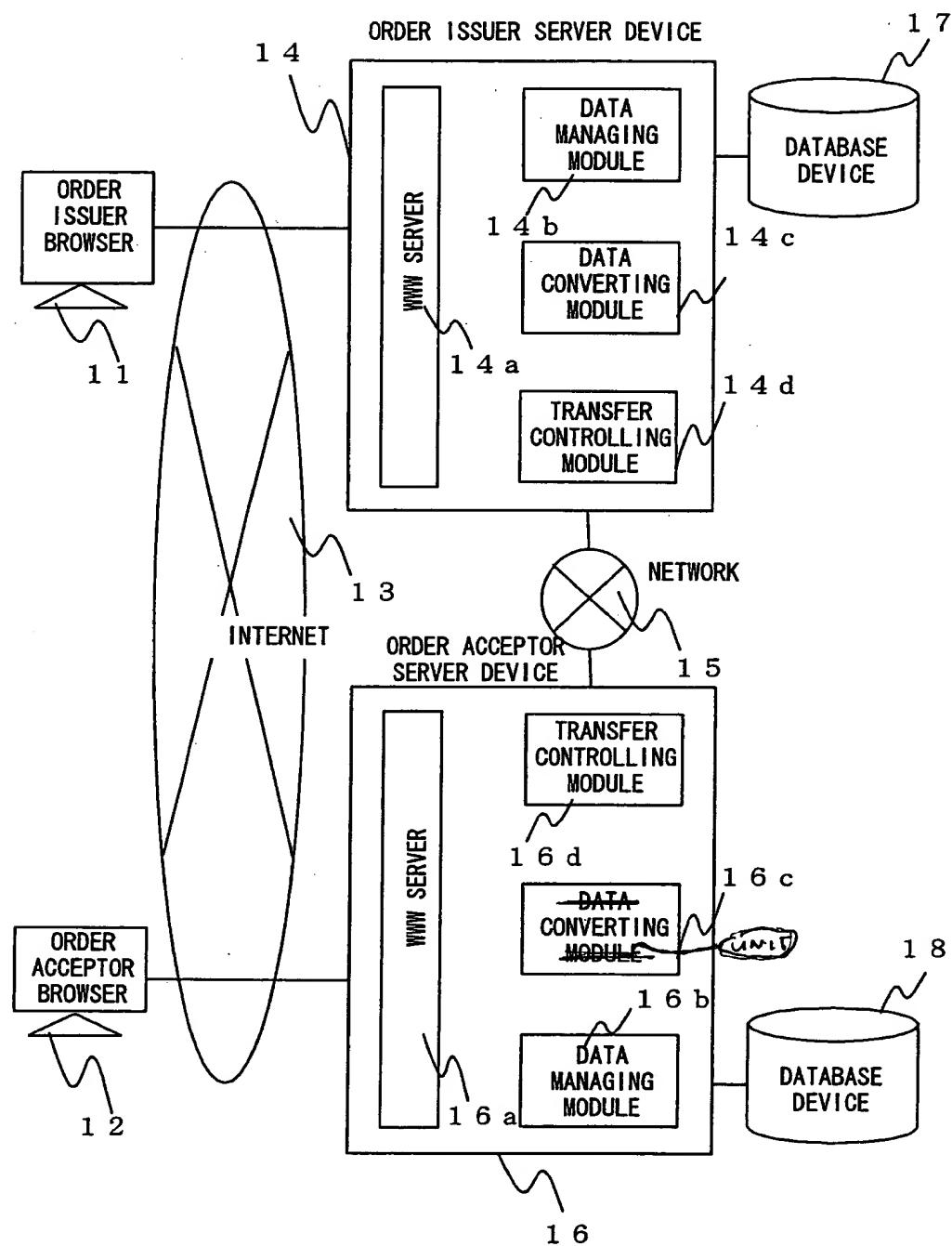


FIG. 16

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ANNOTATED SHEET



F I G. 7